



PRAIRIE SCHOOL

for union women



June 13-16, 2022
Saskatoon, SK
In-Person & Virtual Courses Offered

PRAIRIE SCHOOL FOR UNION WOMEN

The Prairie School for Union Women offers trade union women an intensive four days of learning and sharing in a supportive environment. The goals of the school are to develop women's personal and leadership skills and to build solidarity among women workers.

Whether you are a woman who is a long time activist or just starting to get involved in your union, this school is open to you. This year, we are pleased to offer opportunities for women to attend both in person in Saskatoon, as well as online from the comfort of your own home or office.

Enrolment for the 2022 Prairie School is limited for both in-person and online options, and participants will be registered on a first-come first-served basis. Your registration fee **MUST** accompany your registration form in order to qualify.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Prairie School for Union Women has established a Scholarship Fund for the purpose of encouraging women from equity-seeking groups and from non-unionized work settings to attend the school as participants.

Women from the following equity-seeking groups are eligible to apply: Aboriginal women, women with disabilities, visible minority women, lesbian/bisexual/trans women and youth (29 and under). In addition, unemployed women and women working in non-unionized settings are eligible to apply.

Courses are scheduled over four days. Please select one course from the following options (also indicate your second and third choice). Please note there are different courses for online and in-person Prairie Schools.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS

A

Igniting the Spark

Women make the union strong! This course offers union women an opportunity to develop and enhance their leadership skills, find their voice and ignite the spark to take on further challenges. Course material will cover the key issues facing working women today and how unions can make a difference.

Participants will examine ideas around leadership, understand myths and the obstacles and challenges women leaders face. We will explore ways of building upon our own skills so we are prepared to consider running for new positions or to support other women running for office.

In this course, you will ...

- Learn about and practice public speaking, discuss how women in leadership deal with conflict;**
- Examine communications and campaigning strategies to help further women's economic and social equality; and**
- Break barriers and elect more women in leadership positions and in public office.**

B

Popular Education - Level 1

As a union activist, you probably work with groups of members. You may have to run union meetings, there may be tensions and conflict within your membership, and there may be challenging collective decisions to be made.

This hands-on program will introduce you to a Popular Education approach to your union work. We will explore good communication skills and how to lead productive discussions. We will learn more about designing union meetings that members want to attend — where exciting things can happen! We'll look at some new and innovative techniques, like the Art of Hosting, that can help our members work better together so we can build a stronger union movement.

After this course, you will ...

- Know about what a popular education approach is;**
- Know Art of Hosting techniques such as World Café and Appreciative Inquiry;**
- Feel increased confidence facilitating union meetings and;**
- Be able to use different methods and techniques in your union work.**

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS

C

Transforming Conflict Into Union Activism

Conflict is woven into the fibre of union life. We need to stand up to our employers, and we have tools to do that. Our main tool is union solidarity. But what happens when we have conflict with our brothers and sisters? How many of us avoid leadership roles because we fear conflict? How can we respond to conflict in our day-to-day activism in a way that builds solidarity and makes our unions stronger?

This course will provide participants with a tool kit of skills and insights to help them feel more confident engaging in conflicts and produce productive results that build the union.

After this course, you will understand ...

- Basic conflict resolution theory;
- The difference between functional and dysfunctional conflict; and
- How gender and culture affect how we view and act in conflict.

You will be able to ...

- Listen effectively, ask better questions, and identify the issues at the heart of a conflict; and
- Develop strategies for transforming conflict into union activism.

D

Making Land Acknowledgements Matter

The Truth & Reconciliation Commission (TRC) concluded in 2015. Many labour organizations were the first to adopt the philosophies of the TRC Final Report. Many began their journey by developing a land acknowledgement statement which is read at local meetings & special events.

This course is intended to build on those foundations of a “mutually beneficial relationship” through teachings on Indigenous philosophy & by finding common ground.

Be prepared to think outside the box, reflect on your personal strengths & leave with the tools needed to enhance the local/ union Reconciliation Relationships at work & in your community.

IN-PERSON CONFERENCE INFORMATION

We are excited to be able to offer Prairie School in person for the first time since 2019! Please read the following information carefully.

Accommodation and Meals

Finding accommodation in Saskatoon is the participant's responsibility. We are happy to provide a listing of unionized hotels in Saskatoon on our website at www.sfl.sk.ca/resources.

Participant registration fees include lunch on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and breakfast on Thursday. All other meals are the participant's responsibility.

Childcare

Childcare may be provided on-site to children age 12 and under by qualified childcare workers. This is for parents/guardians who have no alternate care available. Space is limited. Only pre-registered children will be accepted. The deadline to request childcare is May 6, 2022- no exceptions. All parents/guardians requesting childcare will be contacted prior to the school.

The cost for participants with children in childcare is \$500 for the first child, and \$200 for each additional child. Fees include meals, snacks, and other activities where costs are incurred.

Transportation

Transportation between the airport, hotel, and the school are the responsibility of the participant. Do not book flights out of Saskatoon earlier than 2:00 pm if possible.

Refund Policy

Up to May 6: full refund
May 6-May 31 : refund minus \$100 admin fee
After May 31: no refund

2021 PRAIRIE SCHOOL FOR UNION WOMEN

IN-PERSON CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Monday, June 13	
Registration	10:30 am-Noon
Lunch	Noon-12:45 p.m.
Opening Plenary	12:45 p.m.-1:15 p.m.
Courses	1:15 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, June 14	
Courses	8:30 a.m.-Noon
Lunch	Noon-1:00 p.m.
Courses Continue	1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, June 15	
Courses	8:30 a.m.-Noon
Lunch	Noon-1:00 p.m.
Courses Continue	1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Thursday, June 16	
Breakfast	8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
Courses	9:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.
Closing Plenary	11:00 a.m.-Noon
School Adjourns	12:00 Noon

Email Confirmation

Participants will be sent an information package in May confirming registration and more detailed information.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION- IN PERSON

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NOTE: You can also fill out an online registration form and make online payment at www.sfl.sk.ca

Union _____ Local _____
Name _____
Address _____
City/Town _____
Province _____ Postal Code _____
Phone (h/c)(____) _____ (w)(____) _____
Email _____
(Email is required for participation in online courses)
Occupation _____
Number of PSUW conferences attended? _____

Special Needs

Do you have any special access needs? Yes No
If yes, please specify. Please note we are unable to provide computers or other electronic equipment. If you require equipment, please contact your union.

Childcare

Do you require childcare on-site? Yes No
Deadline is MAY 6- NO EXCEPTIONS. Must accompany completed paid registration. See conference information page for fee structure.

Child Name _____ Age _____
Child Name _____ Age _____
Child Name _____ Age _____

Do they have any special needs? (specify):

Total amount included for childcare:

Accommodation and Transportation

Arrangements for accommodation and transportation are the responsibility of the participant. Please see the conference information page for more information.

Course Selection

We do our best to ensure you are enrolled in the course of your choice. However, each course enrolment is limited and registration will be on a first-come first-served basis. Please include your second and third choices! Indicate the course letter in the blanks below.

First: _____

Second: _____ Third: _____

PSUW Registration Fees

Is your union/local affiliated to your provincial/territorial federation of labour? Yes No

Early bird registration received by May 6, 2022.
(Cheque must accompany completed registration form to qualify. No exceptions.)

Affiliates: by May 6: \$650
 after May 6: \$700
Non-affiliates: by May 6: \$750
 after May 6: \$800

Note: Include appropriate childcare fees.

Make cheque payable to SFL

Mail completed form and cheque to:

Saskatchewan Federation of Labour
220 – 2445 13th Ave., Regina, SK S4P 0W1

Phone: (306) 525-0197

Fax: (306) 525-8960

Or, e-transfer funds to:

payment@sfl.sk.ca

Please include in memo: "PSUW Reg."

Office Use Only

Chq # _____

Amt \$ _____

Date Received _____



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ONLINE WORKSHOPS

1

Building Strong, Inclusive Locals That Prioritize Human Rights

Throughout history, women have always needed to organize for change, and as Union Sisters in all our diversity, we have learned that creating change and shifting behaviours in our workplaces have always been more successful when we build solidarity, engage our diverse communities, and create more inclusive workspaces and movements that prioritize human rights.

In the Prairies, we work hard addressing barriers for all women on a daily basis, and this committed work has strengthened our roots in both the labour and women's movement. Solidarity, diversity, inclusivity, community organizing, and social activism are the tools we can use for mobilizing our diverse communities. As employers and movements continue to divide us and use racism, sexism, trans/homophobia, and ableism. We will focus on the roles that we can play as leaders and activists to counter these tactics and work stronger together to advance equity, diversity and inclusivity.

In this course, we will ...

- Explore the foundations of solidarity, activism, and building safer and more inclusive spaces;
- Develop the tools needed to create change in our Locals and in our movement; and
- Be ready to return to our communities to implement structures that empower all women in order to become an Ally for Equality!

2

Women's Health and Safety in the Workplace

Women's Health and Safety In the Workplace

Healthy and safe workplaces are a basic right. This workshop will provide women activists with tools, materials, and processes to address this key area of work life. You will develop an understanding of how workplace stress and other psychosocial hazards can affect us and how to deal with them.

The workshop will help identify stressors that affect women such as job demands, job control, lack of support, and violence/ bullying resulting in a lack of work life balance. We will discuss health and safety issues important to women and work on solutions and prevention strategies to reduce stress and eliminate hazards.

After this course you will...

- Understand gender-based inequities in health & safety and how they impact women;
- Discuss workplace hazards that put women at risk to their physical and psychological health and safety;
- Explore actions that you can take back to the workplace to address inequities and;
- Share questions and answers to some of the challenges and successes you have experienced.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ONLINE WORKSHOPS

3

A Journey to Empower Women

Are you a woman with passion and motivation? Do you want to help build a stronger union? Are you interested in taking on more of a leadership role in your union or community? Would you like to know more about tools and skills that can help foster the movement for social change?

If you answered YES to any of these questions, this course is for you!

After this course, you will know ...

- More about the challenges facing workers in Canada;
- How to engage other union members in meaningful conversations; and
- More about formal and informal leadership opportunities in your union.

You will feel ...

- A connection with other activists;
- Motivated to increase women's involvement in their unions; and
- More confident about taking on a leadership role within your union.

You will be able to ...

- Speak up about issues that are important to working women;
- Identify different types of mobilizing tools and when to use them; and
- Take actions that contribute to women's empowerment.

ONLINE CONFERENCE INFORMATION

The SFL is proud to be able to offer an online version of Prairie School once again this year. Whether you are unable to attend in person due to the cost of travel, or do not feel comfortable attending events in person due to COVID-19, you are still able to attend Prairie School from your home or office!

Required Equipment

A computer, internet and an email address are essential to participate in the virtual school. Equipment is not provided. Please contact your union if you require any equipment.

Course Schedule

Courses take place between 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST daily, with scheduled time for breaks and lunch.

Course Delivery

Course instruction will be delivered via Zoom. All course materials will be distributed electronically prior to the start of the course.

Refund Policy

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Confirmation

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2022 PRAIRIE SCHOOL FOR UNION WOMEN

ONLINE CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Monday, June 13	
Conference Opens	
Course 1	9:00 am – 5:00 p.m.
Course 2	
Course 3	
Tuesday, June 14	
Course 1	9:00 am – 5:00 p.m.
Course 2	
Course 3	
Wednesday, June 15	
Course 1	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Course 2	
Course 3	
Thursday, June 16	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Course 1	
Course 2	
Course 3	
Conference Concludes	
Scheduled breaks and lunches will occur during all courses. Course times are CST (Saskatchewan Time).	

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION- ONLINE

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

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Union _____ Local _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____

Province _____ Postal Code _____

Phone (h/c)(____) _____ (w)(____) _____

Email _____
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Number of PSUW conferences attended? _____

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Make cheque payable to SFL

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